

—Dr. Adam Clarke.

LETTER FROM CAPTAIN ROUND.
Washington, N. C., April 19, 1863.

On the 1st inst. we received orders to be ready to march at an hour's notice with three days' rations. At that particular day every one is looking out for a "sell," it was a matter of some difficulty to satisfy the men that the order was genuine; but as we have been absent from camp, or under marching orders ever since, all were satisfied long ago that it was no "April fool" about it. It was not until Tuesday morning the 7th inst. at half past nine that

actually received orders to march. We passed through Newbern about midnight, crossed the Neuse River, and about 2 A. M. bivouacked on the left bank. The next morning we moved on to the battle-ground of the 14th ult. Here we remained until half past one of the following day.

born, consisted of nearly all the force then at Washington, commenced its march overland toward Philadelphia, under the command of General Sir John Mifflin, of Pennsylvania. We marched about two miles that afternoon and evening, most of the time through thick pine woods. We passed about half a dozen dwellings on our route, and one school-house crossed road about four miles from the spot where we camped. On Wednesday night Company K was ordered upon to do picket duty "in the presence of the enemy" as we supposed, a light, supposed to proceed from their camp-fires, being visible at an approximate distance of three miles. The next morning the advance counter-marched to the school-house for the purpose above, leaving the pioneers in the rear to make the road for the intervening four miles of the crossing trees across it. Companies G and K of the Forty-third were left in the rear to guard the pioneers against an attack of rebel cavalry. The day was one of the most beautiful we ever beheld, and

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.
God does not recognize the validity of bad rows.

thick mass of smoke and flame. We also saw
the soldiers kill that had been torn open and was bubbling
with a smoke so thick and grand as to remind
the fires of the interior regions. The only un-
derstandable feature of this half day's duty consisted in the
frequency of climbing over the trees which had been
burned and the frequent use of the long and
frequent rests which were made up of the
of our duty required, so that when we reached
the school-house at half past twelve, we congratulated
ourselves upon one of the most pleasant half days
of any one we had yet performed.

About 1 o'clock P. M. we received orders to go
to the regiment, which, with the main army, had taken
the other road from the school-house, and had
reached we know not how far towards Washington
the morning. We were ordered to participate
in participating in our march, and we were
promptly, soon compelling some of our members
to go by the roadside. After marching in this way
for about six miles, the sound of artillery
started our attention and quivered our pace. So

those who had previously fallen by the roadside, and pressed forward themselves to new life, and pressed forward with all the enthusiasm of which an exhausted physical system is capable. Three miles more brought them to the left of the army which was drawn up in the battle at the left of the road. Colonel Amor's brigade was two miles further on at the extreme right, and it was there where the actual fighting was going on. Pressing eagerly forward and passing in front after regiment that would gladly have followed to the scene of strife, we were within a few

the actual place of conflict, when one of Colonel Amory's aides informed us that a retreat had been ordered, and advised us to remain where we were until the arrival of our regiment. This advice we were disposed to follow, and continued our march for a few steps, when Colonel Amory himself appeared and ordered us to halt and join our regiment as it came out of the field. Of course we did so, although our rest of fifteen minutes, after a rapid march of eleven miles, was quite agreeable, the sound of artillery close at hand made us impatient for some active participation with the strife.

Fearing that the enemy were in force near the camping-ground of the previous night, and that we could get their way through our blockade and surround our camp, the commanding general ordered

necessary to retreat with great rapidity to the schoolhouse, where we arrived late at night, having marched twenty-six miles during the day, twenty-two of which Company K had marched since 1 o'clock. The stress and fatigue with which we went into camp, I can imagine but a soldier; worse than that was the thought that we were going to be killed. I was so disgraced. I had hoped in a few hours more to see our weary besieged comrades of the Twenty-Seventh and Forty-Fourth, and now to abandon

Friday afternoon we reached our camp, and remained there for nearly twenty-four hours, when we were ordered to march, and lobbied over to Newberstons. We embarked on the steamer Thomas Collier. Surprisingly, we found us in the Pacific River just below the batteries near Washington. The Fifth Regiment had been there before us in the steamer Essex, and so were seven gunboats, which kept about around the batteries as we, perhaps for strategic reasons,

Nothing further was done till Monday night, when the Excort run the blockade with the Fifth R. and arrived at Washington uninjured and unharmed. Afterwards ascertained. Strange to say, this was done by Colonel Sisson on his own responsibility without orders from General Palmer, under my command we were. The same night a schooner laden with stores also run the blockade under the charge of a volunteer crew, mostly of the Fifth Third, under the command of Sergeant Nicholas of Company K. They were fired upon from both batteries, and a bullet pierced through the cap of Sergeant Nichols, but no harm was done.

Several shots were possible without any real loss. Several shot had just missed her boiler, several pierced the casement of her wheels, and several had exploded on her upper deck, and one among the machinery. Her pilot was killed, and the only man on board who understood the channel, the negro half dead with fear. A pistol at his throat turned his fear in a new direction, and he piloted the steamer safely through. We were ordered to

lighted to find General Foster on board. One had passed through his state-room, but very fortunately he had gone below just before the occurrence. His presence in Washington had saved it from the attacks of the enemy, but now it had become necessary that he should leave it in order to grant the besieged town a support from without which his subordinates had failed to afford. He took a company of the Forty-third on board the *Essex*, with him, and sailed in November. With a

Friday afternoon we were ordered to proceed to the opposite side of the Neuse. By reaching Newland the orders were countermanded, and we unlearned again on board the Excelsior. On Saturday morning we went again in the Pamlico River. The latter was in our possession, three companies of the Forty-Third occupying the lower one. By reaching Washington, I am now in the command of a small post which forms the extreme right of our army here. Our defense consist of a howitzer, five earthworks, a bomb-proof, a six pound and a thirty-two pounder. The garrison consists of the Zion's Herald Company, half of a company of the Twenty-Seventh, and a squad belonging to the First North Carolina. The latter are all natives of this State, many of them deserters from the army. Some of their number have been taken prisoners since the war commenced, and murdered.

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